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HOUSE APPROVES DEFENSE FUNDING FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NEW FUSE TECHNOLOGY BY RESONANT MICROSYSTEMS

WASHINGTON, D.C. â€“ Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI) announced today that the U.S. House of Representatives has approved his request for \$4 million in next year's defense budget for the development of a new type of fuse technology for military munitions by Resonant Microsystems and their partner, Stresau Laboratory in Spooner.

â€œUsing nanotechnology, Resonant Microsystems is developing a fuse entirely on a single computer chip. Their fuze-on-a-chip would be smaller, cheaper, and more reliable than the fuses the military uses today. That increased reliability would mean more successful missions for our military and less risk of our soldiers or civilians coming across unexploded munitions,â€ said Obey. â€œI'm glad the House approved my request for these funds to help improve our military's weapons and hopefully keep some good jobs here in Wisconsin.â€

The new fuse technology can be used in a wide range of explosives, from the largest bombs to grenades to devices that prevent sensitive information and technology from falling into enemy hands.

The funds Obey requested for next year would allow Resonant Microsystems to begin work on integrating a micro-detonator with nanotechnology-derived low-voltage circuits and develop a pilot production line for these chip-based fuses. The company anticipates that ten jobs could be created in the first year of the project, and as many as 50 over the project's full course.

The defense budget was passed by the House over the weekend and must still be approved by the Senate and signed by the President before it becomes law. "But having these projects included in the House approved version means a major hurdle has been cleared," Obey concluded.

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